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REMARKS

This response is intended as a full and complete response to the final Office Action mailed August 12, 2004. In the Action, the Examiner notes that claims 1-14 and 20-26 are pending, of which claims 1-14 and 26 are allowed and claims 20-25 stand rejected, and claims 17-19 are withdrawn from consideration. By this response, the Applicants have canceled withdrawn claims 17-19 and rejected claims 20-25. Allowed claims 1-14 and 26 are the only remaining claims.

In view of both the amendments presented above and the following discussion, the Applicants submit that none of the claims now pending in the application are obvious under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §103. Thus, the Applicants believe that all of the pending claims are now in allowable form.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 1-14 and 26.

REJECTIONS

REJECTION OF CLAIMS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 20-25

The Examiner has rejected claims 20-25 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious and unpatentable over Edmonds et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,412,079, hereinafter "Edmonds") in further view of Deitz et al. (U.S. Patent 6,578,158, hereinafter "Deitz") and Mchale et al. (US-2001/0043568, hereinafter "Mchale"). Since Applicants have canceled claims 20-25, the rejection is deemed moot.

THE SECONDARY REFERENCES

The secondary references made of record are noted. However, it is believed that the secondary references are no more pertinent to the Applicant's disclosure than the primary references cited in the Office Action. Therefore,

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Applicants believe that a detailed discussion of the secondary references is not necessary for a full and complete response to this Office Action.

CONCLUSION

Thus, the Applicants submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, both reconsideration of this application and its swift passage to issue are earnestly solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner telephone Steven M. Hertzberg or Eamon J. Wall at (732) 530-9404 so that appropriate arrangements can be made for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully submitted,

8/30/04

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